

**Minutes of the ICAG meeting Wed 10th December 2014
at the Town Hall, Upper Street N1 at 7.30-9.30pm**

Present: Alison Dines, Keith Macfarlane, Eilidh Murray, Michelle Shipworth, Simon Izod, Andrea Casalotti, Adrian Williams, Anita Frizzarin, Tom Harrison, John Ackers, Paul Standeven, Nick Kocharhook, Jono Kenyon, Chris Kenyon

Apologies: David Lincoln, Tabitha Tanqueray, Oliver Schick

Matters arising.

Air quality monitoring around Clerkenwell

The diffusion tubes will be removed and analysed in the second week of January. The monitoring sites have included Amwell Street and part of the Quietway 38 route. Decisions on using the results will be made in January.

Plans for Clerkenwell Road/Boulevard

Tabitha had collated the responses and sent the document to Islington but the section on the junctions had been deferred. As Nick had expressed interest in this John suggested he was asked to write this part of the response and that Tabitha should send it to the Islington engineers.

5 'small' cycling schemes

Michelle had sent a suggestion to John but otherwise he had not received any others. Tom was concerned that the council installing small schemes could detract from the 'bigger picture' that it should be addressing and we should not be encouraging a piecemeal approach to cycling provision. It was agreed that Michelle should contact David with her suggestion for Tufnell Park and that asking to reduce barriers to cycling was a better way of getting local support, rather than talking about filtered permeability. As discussed previously Canonbury Square could be put forward as could Bikehangers (but the council were still considering these) and it was felt that more money might be available as the end of the financial year approached, if there had been any underspends.

Actions: Alison to draft list of 'Q&As' about Bikehangers for Islington officers.

Agenda

Canonbury Square

Simon summarised what he, Clarissa, Michael, Stephen and Sharon had been doing since the last meeting which included leafleting, talking to local residents, businesses and the Canonbury Society. Some residents said there were accidents on a weekly basis in the streets around the square and some of the local businesses were very supportive whilst others were not. They would also be approaching the local schools, Canonbury Primary School, William Tyndale and North Bridge House. At the St Mary's ward partnership meeting Simon and Stephen were unable to get Canonbury Square on the agenda as the meeting was dominated by TfL discussing the Highbury Corner bridge replacement but they would be seeing the local councillors at their surgeries. Liz Wathen from Islington had said the council could consider removing some parking spaces around the square. Paul Taylor, Islington engineer, had said that modelling the closure of the square could cost £50,000. The meeting congratulated Simon and his group on what they had achieved so quickly.

Roundabout about Highbury and Islington Corner

At the St Mary's Ward Partnership meeting Simon and colleagues had raised the issue of how the work of the bridge replacement here (and future changes to the roundabout/gyratory) might impact on Canonbury Square and were disappointed that these did not seem to have been considered. However as there would be no changes to the roundabout until the bridge replacement had been completed (summer 2017) it was agreed there should be time to try and influence the design and

Simon had been invited to join the local ward councillors steering committee for Highbury Corner. Nick and Tom were also interested and would contact Martijn Cooijmans at Islington to try and arrange a meeting.

Archway Consultation

Michelle, Anita and Keith had handed out ICAG fliers encouraging local residents to respond to this consultation and Liz Reiner had submitted the ICAG response. Keith had been told at a TfL consultation exhibition that individual responses were as important to TfL as those from interest groups and the meeting congratulated Tom on his work on the ICAG website to enable individual responses; he expressed disappointment that of the 300 reads of the page, just 16 went on to the TfL website but Anita suggested people could have accessed the TfL pages via other routes after reading the ICAG website.

Update on Nag's Head

Nick, Jono and Tabitha had seen the latest Islington and TfL plans for this area and were very disappointed as Seven Sisters Road was shown with bidirectional bus lanes and a 2m wide 'no man's land' area in the middle. ICAG had a meeting arranged with Sustrans and would be meeting Living Streets in the New Year. Nick agreed to write to Islington expressing our views and to Gary Heather, one of the local councillors as they seemed to be out of loop. As the councillors had agreed to back the S4C asks here it was also agreed to feedback our disappointment to Claudia Webbe.

Feedback from ICAG meeting with council officers

Nick asked if ICAG had found out whether modelling for traffic schemes was required and it seemed to depend on the interpretation of the Traffic Management Act of 2004 which Islington did conservatively so that on small schemes it wasn't necessary. Tom had discussed Islington's interpretation of this act with Nick Wayne, a Canonbury councillor and lawyer, as it was felt that money could be saved by the council being less risk averse.

New North Road

Tom had attended the local ward partnership meeting and hoped that the scheme would be revised.

Islington council's support for cycling to school

This was carried over until the next meeting.

ICAG social event

Eilidh had previously discussed with Tom doing some social rides to engage with more cyclists as large organised rides were popular, although it was felt that the events like the feeder rides to the central London events could only be done to those events. A ride to mark the anniversary of little S4C Islington ride, perhaps visiting a few historic sites in the borough or a mini ride family event was discussed. Eilidh, Tom, Alison and Simon were all interested in pursuing this as a working group and Alison would ask David Shannon the cycling officer if he had any of the routes the Islington Cycling Club 'Coffee and Cakes' rides had used.

Cycle Theft

Alison had been contacted by an ICAG member who had recently had her front bike wheel stolen and felt there should be more secure bike parking available. There was not enough time to discuss this further but Alison wondered if Anita could ask the police Borough Commander, when he spoke at the Islington Society AGM next week, about the use of decoy bikes.

ICAG response to Old Street/City Road junction

At the beginning of the meeting, in preparation for the discussion on TfL's Old Street roundabout consultation, the meeting agreed to vote to get an idea of how those present felt about supporting one of three potential options:

Option 1: the scheme for a peninsula which TfL is currently consulting on. However, as this scheme was generally acknowledged from discussions on the ICAG-eng e-group to be weak to support this ICAG would use the proposals from the Maidstone cyclist.

Option 2: the crossroad scheme favoured by Hackney Cyclists and others.

Option 3: a scheme for a fully segregated crossroad scheme but in the absence of that an improved version of the peninsula scheme.

Votes in favour of option 1: 0

Votes in favour of option 2: 0

Votes in favour of option 3: 7 with 2 abstentions

At the end of the meeting there was a general discussion about the consultation in which the importance of reducing the traffic and having space for protected cycle lanes taken from the carriageway was agreed. The removal of barriers to cycling must be done properly and Jono felt the advantage of the cross roads was the human scaling. John agreed to write the part of the ICAG response about public space and Tom on how the peninsular scheme could be improved.

Any other business

Serious collision at the junction of Clerkenwell Road and St John's Street

Andrea said there had been a serious collision with a cyclist and a lorry here the previous day. He was trying to find out if it was a cross rail lorry and would be visiting the site with the Cycling Embassy; he believed the right turn in St John's Street for eastbound lorries should be banned.

ICAG e-group moderation

Andrea was concerned that an e-mail he had sent to the ICAG e-list had been censored, although he was unable to say which one it was. John explained that as a result of an excessive number of e-mails on a topic (which were not adding to the debate and had made some subscribers leave the list) a while ago he and Keith had instigated a moderation process and they agreed this process needed to be clarified.

Attendance at council meetings with ICAG

Andrea said he was still not invited to these meetings. Tom had raised it with the engineers but the council felt Andrea had not apologised sufficiently for the e-mail he had sent to an officer in July.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 14th January 2015, 7.30-9.30pm at the Town Hall.